

oblong-lanceolate, shortly hairy, ciliate along margin, each up to 7 x 4 mm; inner bracts linear-lanceolate, paleaceous, 5 x 1 mm, merging into paleae of the receptacle. *Outer florets* ligulate, 5-9, female, yellow, 2-3-lobed at the apex. *Inner florets* tubular, limb 4-fid, hermaphrodite; stamens 4, epipetalous, syngenesious, anthers appendaged at the apex and tailed at the base. Style of both the female and hermaphrodite florets bifid. *Achenes* dimorphic; those of ray-florets dorsally compressed, narrowly winged, crowned with 2 spines, those

of disc florets dorsally compressed and crowned with 2 spines or triquetrous and crowned with 3 spines, scabrid, spines half as long as the achenes, shortly hairy.

Specimens Examined:

New Forest, Dehra Dun, 28 August 1988, *Sumer Chandra* 150 (DD) and 30 August 1988, *H.B. Naithani* 1529 (DD).

December 1, 1988.

H.B. NAITHANI
SUMER CHANDRA

40. SOME NEW COMBINATIONS IN THE SUBTRIBE LACTUCEAE (ASTERACEAE)

The members of the complex subtribe Lactuceae are morphologically inter-related and show overlapping characters. During the course of a critical study on the taxonomic revision of the subtribe Lactuceae, a few important characters to distinguish all the genera were recognised. Members like *Mulgedium*, *Cicerbita* and *Lactuca* are very closely allied but can be differentiated as follows:

In *Cicerbita* involucre bracts are in more than 3-series, gradually passing into inner, and usually blackish bristly hairy, whereas in *Mulgedium* and *Lactuca* involucre bracts are usually 2-3 seriate, differentiated into outer and inner bracts and usually glabrous or sparsely hairy. Further, in *Cicerbita* involucre are usually broad, and campanulate and achenes are ovate or elliptic, sub-compressed with a small beak, whereas in *Mulgedium* and *Lactuca* involucre are comparatively small or medium sized, usually cylindrical and achenes are oblanceolate or lanceolate, finely compressed with a small or a long beak.

Subsequently *Lactuca gracilis* has been transferred to the genus *Ixeris*, therefore variety *khasiana* automatically deserves a new combination. Similarly, *Picridium tingitana* has been transferred to the genus *Reichardia*, therefore variety *subintegra* also deserves a new combination.

Keeping in view the above justifications we suggest the following new combinations.

Cicerbita filicina (Duthie ex Stebbins) Mamgain & Rao, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Lactuca filicina* Duthie ex Stebbins in Ind. For. Rec. Bot. 1(6): 241:1939.

Cicerbita cyanea (D. Don) Beauverd var. *paniculata* (Clarke) Mamgain & Rao, comb. nov. Basionym: *Lactuca hastata* Wall. ex DC. var. *paniculata* Clarke, Comp. Ind.

268. 1876.

Cicerbita cyanea (D. Don) Beauverd var. *khasiana* (Clarke) Mamgain & Rao, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Lactuca hastata* Wall. ex DC. var. *khasiana* Clarke, Comp. Ind. 268. 1876.

Cicerbita lessertiana (Wall. ex DC.) Mamgain & Rao, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Mulgedium lessertianum* Wall. ex DC. Prodr. 7: 251. 1838.

Cicerbita lessertiana subsp. *dentata* (DC.) Mamgain & Rao, comb. nov. et stat. nov.

Basionym: *Mulgedium lessertianum* var. *dentatum* DC. Prodr. 7.

Cicerbita lessertiana subsp. *lyrata* (Decne.) mamgain & Rao, comb. nov. et stat. nov.

Basionym: *Melanoseris lyrata* Decne. in Jacqu. Voy. 4. Bot. 101. t. 109. 1844.

Ixeris gracilis (Wall. ex DC.) Stebbins var. *khasiana* (Hook.f.) Mamgain & Rao, comb. nov.

Basionym: *Lactuca gracilis* Wall. ex DC. var. *khasiana* Hook.f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 411. 1881.

Reichardia tingitana (Linn.) Roth, var. *subintegra* (Boisser) Mamgain & Rao, comb. nov. Basionym: *Picridium tingitanum* (Linn.) Desf. var. *subintegra* Boisser, Fl. Ori. 3:828. 1875.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to the Director, Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta, for facilities.

September 9, 1988

S.K. MAMGAIN
R.R. RAO

41. PLANTS IN RELATION TO SOCIO-CULTURE OF LADAKH

Folklore, mythological stories and the epics, as also innumerable religious practices in households and temples, in festivals, births and deaths are all replete with

references to plants. Perhaps as a consequence of his dependence on plants, man has incorporated them into his religion, language, art, drama and recreation.